

TRIBUTE TO BRONX COMMUNITY
COLLEGE'S 28TH ANNUAL HALL
OF FAME 10K RUN

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 9, 2006

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, it is with joy that I rise today to once again pay tribute to Bronx Community College, which will hold its 28th Annual Hall of Fame 10K Run on Saturday, May 6, 2006.

The Hall of Fame 10K Run was founded in 1978 by Bronx Community College's third president, Dr. Roscoe C. Brown. Its mission is to highlight the Hall of Fame for Great Americans, a national institution dedicated to those who have helped to make America the nation that it is today.

One of the Bronx's most anticipated yearly events, the race contributes to a strong sense of community within the Bronx and helps to promote healthy living by placing emphasis on physical fitness and achieving athletic goals.

The tradition continues under the leadership of President Carolyn G. Williams, the first woman president of Bronx Community College. Dr. Williams has endorsed and follows the commitment made by Dr. Brown to promote physical well-being as well as higher education.

As one who has run the Hall of Fame 10K Run, I can attest that the excitement it generates brings the entire borough together. It is a celebration and affirmation of life. I am happy that more than 400 people will share this experience this year—one that will surely change many of their lives forever. I salute the hundreds of joyful people who will run along the Grand Concourse, University Avenue and West 181st Street and savor the variety of celebrations. There is no better way to see our wonderful Bronx community.

I am also pleased to note that the Annual Run is also joined by a 2 Mile Fitness Walk which allows for as many people as possible, regardless of their athletic ability, to get involved and support the Hall of Fame.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing the individuals and participants who are making the Bronx Community College's 28th Annual Hall of Fame Run possible.

IN SUPPORT OF NATIONAL
TEACHER DAY

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 9, 2006

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of National Teacher Day. I thank the National Education Association (NEA) for sponsoring National Teacher Day in honor of the teachers who work around the clock to help students develop the skills they need to succeed in life.

This year's National Teacher Day theme, "Great Teachers Make Great Public Schools," recognizes the instrumental role that teachers play in making sure that every child receives a quality education. In recent years, especially with increased global competition, there has

been an emphasis on the need to improve our schools and to ensure that every class is taught by high quality teachers. Fortunately, today's public school teachers are the most educated, most experienced ever. The percentage of teachers with a master's degree has more than doubled since 1961 from 23 to 57 percent, and more than 75 percent of all teachers sharpen their skills by participating in professional development related to their grade or subject area. Nine out of 10 teachers only teach subjects in their licensed subject area.

American school teachers work tirelessly to educate our Nation's students. Many of these teachers work out of crumbling old buildings, teach overcrowded classrooms and do the best they can with outdated materials and little access to technology; additionally, they are paid a salary that reflects neither their great worth nor their ability. For the benefit of children, these dedicated individuals spend an average of 50 hours per week and spend an average of \$443 per year of their own money on class supplies even though the average starting salary for teachers is only \$31,704 per year.

Confronted with a difficult job, school teachers rise to the challenge and I am grateful for today's opportunity to honor them. Unfortunately, this day is also bittersweet because as we recognize the achievements of America's teachers we must also remember the shortcomings of this Congress in failing to help them meet the mandates of No Child Left Behind (NCLB).

The No Child Left Behind Act was passed with the greatest of intentions, but major funding shortfalls have plagued school districts and handcuffed teachers, leaving them focused on federally mandated testing standards and on demonstrating adequate yearly progress (AYP) without providing them with the funding necessary to help students achieve. If this year's budget is passed as is, it would leave NCLB, an initiative that this Administration spearheaded, with \$15.4 billion less than authorized levels, bringing the total amount that has been shortchanged from the program to over \$55 billion. In a recent survey, NEA member-teachers cited "working to increase funding for public schools" as their top priority. As teachers work to make American schools great, it is a shame that this Congress has failed to fulfill its responsibility and continues to hold schools accountable to these unfunded mandates.

Today, I urge my colleagues to honor the work of America's teachers not just in word or through events, but by committing to fully fund NCLB so that our teachers can succeed in their mission of making sure every child receives a quality education.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO JOHN P.
MCFADDEN

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 9, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 85th birthday of John Patrick McFadden, and the anniversary of the McFadden Insurance Agency, which John started 25 years ago.

John McFadden was born July 23, 1921 in Butte, Montana. Born to Irish immigrants, John was educated in a one room school house in Boulder City, Nevada, where the family resided while John's father worked construction on the Hoover Dam. John later attended Las Vegas High School, and graduated in 1940. In 1942, after the start of World War II, John joined the United States Navy. He went to boot camp in San Diego, California, and after completing his training he was assigned to the destroyer minelayer, the USS *Shea* out of Lido Beach, New York. On May 5, 1945, the ship was struck by a Japanese kamikaze plane off the shores of Okinawa, Japan. Two-thirds of the crew of the destroyer were killed and many more wounded; John's injuries were also significant, having sustained 13 pieces of shrapnel in his left leg, severing a nerve and leaving the outside of his foot numb. His right leg, rear end, and head were also full of shrapnel. The shrapnel in his head caused temporary blindness, but after treatment in Saipan, his sight returned. John was not able to return to active duty and was honorably discharged.

In 1951, John was hired at Mercury, Nevada now known as the Nevada Test Site, to set up warehousing in both Camp 1 and Camp 3. In 1953 he was asked to go to Saudi Arabia to work in warehousing and supply and aided the building of dormitories and air strips for the U.S. Air Force, which were used by our country in Operation Desert Storm. During his tenure in Saudi Arabia, he met his wife, Rose. John and Rose subsequently moved back to Las Vegas and were married in 1957.

John trained to be an insurance adjuster, handling property claims, and with a partner formed Key Adjustment Company. He later agreed to manage Horsey Insurance, which later became Harrington-Horsey Insurance. In 1981, after managing the agency for 17 years he decided to form his own agency, now known as McFadden Insurance. This agency is now in its 25th year. During his years with the agency John served as the President of the Nevada Independent Insurance Agents for 2 years, and then served 2 terms as the State National Director for the Nevada Association. He was named "Man of the Year" by the Nevada Independent Insurance Agents in 1986. Even on the eve of his 85th birthday, he has no plans to quit working, and still comes into the office and continues to be a vital asset to the agency.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor John P. McFadden for his heroic service to America and for his personal and professional successes.

COMMEMORATING THE MOUNT
VERNON YACHT CLUB'S 50TH AN-
NUAL COMMISSIONING DAY
CEREMONIES

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 9, 2006

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate the Mount Vernon Yacht Club on its 50th annual Commissioning Day.

The Mount Vernon Yacht Club was founded in 1956 to offer a variety of social and water-